

# IT'S OFF; RECALL LEADERS RESIGN

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## Herald Editorial Broke the Back of Recall Move Claim

Approximately 60 hours after the editorial "The Time Has Come" (re-printed below) appeared in last Thursday's issue of the Torrance Herald, leaders in the move to recall the Mayor and three councilmen dropped the action.

The editorial which presented the findings of a two-week investigation by reporters on the Herald staff into the charges brought by recall leaders was believed by many sources to be responsible for the resignation of the chairman and secretary of the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee.

Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr., speaking of the editorial said this morning:

"As a citizen I believe the expose of the falseness of the charges brought by the recall leaders was a real and great contribution to the community.

The Torrance Herald is to be commended for this service to the community. Without a doubt the publication of the real facts in the case saved the city from spending \$6000-\$8000 needlessly for a recall election and possibly a like amount for a second election to fill the vacancies—if any! My personal congratulations for stepping in and stopping a mud-slinging campaign which if allowed to be carried-out would have certainly splattered the entire city."

Following is the editorial as it appeared last Thursday:

(AN EDITORIAL)

### The Time Has Come . . .

. . . for the Torrance Herald to fulfill its civic responsibilities to the citizens of this city . . . and to ask a few vital questions of the men who signed the recall charges against Mayor Sherfey and Councilmen Haggard, Powell and Jackson.

Chairman William Bowman and Secretary Kenneth Kail of the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee . . . how do you answer the following questions?

Mr. Kail, can you deny that you gave an address on Torrance Boulevard as your bona fide residence knowing at the time that you did not live at that address? Did you know that the Torrance Herald has a signed statement from the occupant of that address that you do not live at that address?

Deny if you can Mr. Kail, that you are not a registered Torrance Voter, in fact deny if you can that you are not even a Torrance citizen and yet you seek to recall our Mayor and three councilmen?

Did you know that ALL the facts and records on why you

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## HOSPITAL NEEDS MORE THERAPEUTIC EQUIPMENT

A potter's wheel, a hand loom, and other equipment is needed by the patients at the County Harbor General Hospital to help repair the hands and minds of those whose wheel of fortune stopped on tragedy.

At present only 25 persons, a fraction of those who could benefit by occupational therapy, are able to spend some time on the hospital's looms, potter's wheel, jig saws, and similar handicraft apparatus.

One of these is Dorothy O'Brien—a former Torrance high school girl whose beauty earned her the title of "Queen of the May." Dorothy is working on a weaving loom in the therapeutics laboratory learning to steady her hands to rehabilitate herself so that she might return to the normal life from which she was snatched several months ago. The 21-year-old beauty was thrown from a horse in a mishap that left her with a brain injury that damaged her reflexes.

If there were more equipment available, say hospital authorities, more patients would be able to be treated and speeded on their way to recovery.

Needed are a 24-in. throat jig saw and motor, two 4-harness hand looms, two 4-harness table looms, a treadle sewing machine, an electric ceramics kiln and a potter's wheel for ceramics. These items would bring into fullest usage the highly trained occupational therapy experts and the quarters allotted at the hospital for the rehabilitation work. A county appropriation provided for only a limited amount of equipment.



CHAIRMAN WM. BOWMAN

"... Purpose Served."



MAYOR HUGH SHERFEY

"... Still Mayor."



SECRETARY KENNETH KAIL

"... Our Job is Done."



COUNCILMAN A. L. JACKSON

"... Couldn't Finish it."



COUNCILMAN GEO. POWELL

"... Action is Best for City."



COUNCILMAN BOB HAGGARD

"... Foolishness Over."



RECOVERY SPEEDED . . . Dorothy O'Brien, former Narbonne High School beauty who received a brain injury in a fall from a horse several months ago is helped along the road to recovery by Nurse Carole Kile on one of the scarce pieces of occupational therapeutics equipment at the Harbor General Hospital. Desperate need for more apparatus exists at the local institution.

## 'Served Its Purpose' Is Claim of Recall Backers

The recallers called off the hounds early this morning. In a joint statement, Bill Bowman, chairman, and Kenneth Kail, secretary of the Torrance Civic Betterment Group, resigned from the leadership of the committee and withdrew their support from the recall movement.

The action ended as abruptly as it started a movement that began August 4 which sought to recall Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey Jr., and Councilmen A. L. Jackson, Bob L. Haggard and George C. Powell.

## Saturday Win Places Bucs In Finals

San Pedro's Yugoslav-American nine will do battle with the Los Angeles Eagles at Torrance Ball Park this evening while the Inglewood Bucs watch from the top rung of the American Legion Semi-Pro Baseball tournament.

The Bucs, on top by virtue of their Saturday evening surprise victory over Bank of America, will wait until next Sunday (Sept. 4) to defend their position with the team which comes through this week's clashes to earn a position in the finals.

In Thursday evening's game, the 21st of the series, the L. A. Police trounced the visiting L. A. Cards, 13-5. In a much tighter game Friday night Arcadia beat the Norwalk Yankees, 8-3. The Bank of America nine, without the help of ace hurler Paul Pettit, bowed before the Bucs, 13-6.

### LINE SCORES

L. A. Cards	020 000 030	— 5 10 8
L. A. Police	401 020 24x	— 13 13 3
Arcadia	060 000 170	— 6 6 4
Yankees	011 100 000	— 3 9 2
Bank	010 020 300	— 6 6 5
Inglewood	304 222 000	— 13 16 4

## Vet Insurance Forms Available

Applications for National Service Life Insurance Dividend payments are now available to veterans at the Veterans Service Center, 1339 Post avenue, Torrance. Information and assistance will be gladly given in completing these forms. Miss Helen K. Dill, Counselor, stated. Forms also are available at the post office or from any veteran organization.

Miss Helen K. Dill announces that state bonus application forms can be obtained at her office located at 1339 Post avenue, Torrance for the following states:

Alaska, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Vermont, Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota (available about Oct. 1, 1949), New Hampshire, South Dakota, and Rhode Island. Application for Iowa State Bonus can be obtained by writing: Iowa World War II Service Compensation Board, Des Moines, Iowa.

### POSITION OPEN

Applications for the position of City Building Inspector will be open until this Wednesday, and will be received by the personnel clerk at the city hall, according to City Manager George W. Stevens.

COUNCILMAN NICK DRALE

"... Resignations Prove Point."

The leaders of the recall movement called off the action they said, because the movement had served its purpose. They claimed the whole movement was brought to put the council "on their toes."

Following is the statement of Bowman and Kail:

August 28, 1949

Statement of William Bowman, chairman, and Kenneth Kail, secretary of the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee:

Our feelings are that the movement to recall the Mayor of Torrance and three members of the City Council has served its purpose.

We feel we have "alerted" the council through our actions to the fact that the people of Torrance are "not asleep at the switch."

We believe the present men on the council as well as those who may be elected in the future, realize that if they step on the toes of the public they can not expect the people to take it in silence.

We have not been intimidated or scared from the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee.

We feel that in the future our city will be better governed, more economically operated, and in general a better city in which to live as a result of the attention that has been focused on the action brought by the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee.

Since these are our sincere feelings in the matter, we hereby tender our resignation as chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee and herewith announce we are withdrawing our support of the present movement to recall the Mayor and three members of the council.

Signed,

WILLIAM BOWMAN,  
Chairman, Torrance Civic Betterment Committee  
KENNETH KAIL,  
Secretary, Torrance Civic Betterment Committee

Though Bowman and Kail said they were acting in their own behalf and not necessarily speaking for the committee as a whole, it is a known fact that at least one other backer of the movement, George Downing, a member of the Civil Service Commission, was in accord with Bowman's and Kail's action.

A meeting of the committee is expected to be held this evening and though the leaders would not say definitely, they indicated that the other members of the committee would likewise drop the recall action.

The leaders were asked to identify the other members of the committee. They answered:

"We can not see that any purpose can be served at this time by naming the committee. We think it best in the interest of all parties 'to let sleeping dogs lie.'"

Mayor Sherfey, advised of the matter this morning, stated:

"Truthfully, I am not surprised. Following last week's publication of the facts in The Torrance Herald, I felt that the backers of the movement would have to listen to the demands of the citizens of Torrance that this unwarranted attack be called off."

Councilman A. L. Jackson said:

"Well, it would seem that the proponents of the recall movement started something they couldn't finish."

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